

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01017 011323Z

61

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 /018 W

----- 070330

R 290830Z SEP 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2408

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 1017

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, IZ

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CHAPMAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OFFICIALS

1. USINT STRONGLY DOUBTS THAT CHAPMAN OFFICIALS TATUM AND SHOPF HAVE CONFIRMED HOTEL RESERVATIONS IN BAGHDAD OCTOBER 11-14 WHICH COINCIDES WITH HEIGHT OF BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL FAIR WHEN ALL HOTEL AVAILABILITIES ARE RIGIDLY CONTROLLED BY MINISTRY OF ECONOMY. IS ALSO A BAD TIME TO SEE GOI OFFICIALS MANY OF WHOM ARE TAKEN UP WITH FAIR OR VARIOUS ASSOCIATED SYMPOSIA. SUGGEST PLAN TO ARRIVE BAGHDAD AFTER OCTOBER 23, IF POSSIBLE.

2. IN ORDER TO FORESTALL ALMOST INEVITABLE (AND VAIN) REQUEST FOR USINT ASSISTANCE IN HOTEL RESERVATIONS, PLEASE SUGGEST TO TATUM AND SHOPF THAT IF THEY INSIST ON COMING DURING BAGHDAD FAIR THEY TRY TO ARRANGE HOTELS THROUGH JEFF SMITH, MANAGER, THOMAS COOK OVERSEAS LTD., P.O. BOX 2007, TELEPHONE 89721, TELEGRAM: COUPON BAGHDAD. LAST YEAR FRENCH COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR FELT SENSE OF TRIUMPH IN BEING ABLE DURING BAGHDAD FAIR TO ARRANGE COT ON ROOF OF AN AWFUL LOCAL HOTEL FOR CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF ONE OF FRANCE'S BIGGEST CORPORATIONS. KILLOUGH

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